

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0007] In addition, there has been proposed a method in which a coating layer is provided on the outer peripheral surface of the honeycomb structure in which the partition walls and the outer peripheral wall are unitarily extruded, to improve accuracy in an outer diameter of the honeycomb structure (see Patent Document 3). This proposal discloses a method for inhibiting a honeycomb structure from breakage upon canning, which is caused by deterioration in mechanical strength of the honeycomb structure due to thinning of the partition walls, by reducing canning bearing by optimizing a clearance range upon canning by improving accuracy in an outer diameter of the honeycomb structure. However, though canning resistance of the honeycomb structure can be improved by such a means in which a coating layer is provided on the outer peripheral surface of the honeycomb structure having unitarily produced partition walls and the outer peripheral wall, there arise problems that heat capacity of the outer wall portion increases and that the heat inside the honeycomb structure transfers to the outer wall side, which are the same as the aforementioned honeycomb structure in which the outer periphery is coated with ceramic cement.

Patent Document 1: JP-A-3-275309

Patent Document 2: JP-A-3-269388

Patent Document 3: ~~JP-A-63-144836~~JP-U-63-144836